

EDMONTON BULLETIN.

VOL. I.

EDMONTON, N. W. T., MONDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1881.

No. 13.

TELEGRAPHIC.

WINNIPEG, Feb. 23, 1881.

Tilley delivered the budget speech announcing a surplus for the current year of over two millions of dollars. Respecting the revenue and expenditure for the last year, had it not been for sums voted to meet the wants of Indians and the Irish distress, there would have been a surplus instead of a deficit. The anticipated surplus for 1881 is \$1,400,000. The principal changes in the tariff are:—Cartridges of all kinds 30 per cent. Laces, braids, fringes, cords and tassels 20 p. c. Musical instruments, uniform duty 25 p. c. Forest trees for planting in Manitoba and the North West can be imported free.

The Peace River Railway Company's act of incorporation provides for the construction of the railway from Belly or Milk River to Peace River, the capital stock to be \$2,000,000. Among persons asking incorporation are Dr. Schultz, David Young, Hugh Sutherland, P. J. Brown and George Brown of Winnipeg.

The Ottawa correspondent of the "Globe" learns on good authority that the Government will appoint a commissioner to enquire into and report upon certain charges which have been prepared against the conduct and administration of the North West Mounted Police. The Government is now selecting commissioners. The writer suggests enquiry, especially into charges of collusion on the part of officers with frontier merchants. It is currently said that knowledge of such collusion was communicated to the Government, and on that account an officer was asked to resign.

Ottawa despatches intimate one feature of the Syndicate land policy. On land sold at \$2.50 per acre, the terms are: One dollar cash, the balance to stand on mortgage, which will be cancelled after three years continuous occupation.

The papers state that the Indian wars of the last fifteen years have cost the United States \$22,000,000. All caused by incompetent or dishonest Indian agents. Our Indian Department should make a note of this.

Small silver 5, 10 and 25 cent pieces,—Canadian coinage—to the amount of \$90,000 has lately been received in Toronto from England.

There are now 30,000 troops in Ireland whose places in England will have to be filled by the militia.

A claim on a vein of gold bearing quartz on section 42, C. P. R., has sold lately for \$750.

The Keewatin Lumber Co. of Rat Portage, cut 1,500,000 feet of lumber last season.

LOCAL.

SLEIGHT thaw last Wednesday and Thursday.

A QUANTITY of fur arrived from Lac La Poudre for the H. B. C. last week.

THE H. B. C. packet for Slave Lake, Peace River, Athabasca and Mackenzie River leaves on Friday next.

THE Gagnon Bros. have cut 125,000 feet of logs about thirty miles up the river, and have sold the whole cut to H. B. Co.

HIGHEST temperature last week was 39 degrees above on Wednesday, and lowest 32 below on Saturday, a range of 72 degrees.

MESSERS. HARDISTY and Wood, with two men, leave for the Big Island coal mine to-day. They will oversee the opening of the mine.

A RACE has been arranged for next Saturday, between McPherson's Brown and McDougall's Captain, \$25 a side, to take place near Carlyn & Lake's store.

THE H. B. C. sent a force of nine men up the river on Saturday, to work the large seam of coal near the Big Island. It is supposed to be of a superior quality to that around Edmonton.

THE first considerable storm of the season began at half-past nine o'clock, on Friday night, and lasted seventeen and a half hours, with a snow fall of eight inches. The cold was not severe.

The race between Lake's and Savard's horses did not come off on Friday owing to the bad weather. In the afternoon McPherson matched his brown horse against Lake's for a half mile dash—five dollars a side, which was won by the former by a length.

On Friday Ma-che-sis was tried on another charge of having stolen some cloth from an Indian woman named Margaret Resurrection, and selling the same to Mrs. Wasney Joe. On this charge he was also sent down for trial. The trials will take place before J. Richardson, S. M.

THERE will be no service in the Methodist church here for the next four Sundays as Mr. Glass is obliged to go to Victoria for some time, to prepare papers for his final examination at Victoria College, Cobourg, as he is qualifying for the ministry. The day school, and singing class on Friday evenings, will be conducted by Mrs. Glass during his absence.

COLEMAN got through boring Colin Fraser's well on Thursday last. The depth is fifty feet, with thirty-six feet of water. At about forty feet, a second bed of gravel about two and a half feet thick containing water was struck. Below the gravel stiff blue clay was all that was found. The water is perfectly good. The place where this well is sunk is one of the most unlikely in the country for water,—about one hundred yards from the edge of a steep bank, 200 feet above the river.

LOCAL.

The first instalment of shingles—seven thousand—from Smith's mill, was brought in on Saturday. They are of good timber and well sawed. He has about 20,000 ready now.

The garden and field seeds sent for last spring by the Edmonton Agricultural Society, and which were received too late for sowing, will be divided into three parts and placed in the hands of Messrs. Ross, Cust, and Reid, for distribution at Edmonton, St. Albert, and Ft. Saskatchewan. The seed will be supplied, on application, to members only, at cost, the money received going to funds of the society. Of garden seeds there are 34 pounds, including all the common varieties. Also half a pound of apple seeds, three pounds of White Dutch Clover, and twenty small bags, about fifty pounds, of spring wheat. Five of the bags are Arnautka wheat, five White Fife, and ten White Russian or Lost Nation wheat. The garden seeds cost \$40, and were purchased from Mr. R. Keith, of Winnipeg, and the wheat \$5, purchased from Steele Bros., Toronto.

At All Saints Church last Thursday, Mr. T. Hourston, of the H. B. C. service, was married to Miss Maria Annal, sister-in-law of Mr. M. Groat, of this place, the ceremony being performed by the Rev. Dr. Newton. On leaving the church, a procession, headed by the bride and groom, and consisting of twelve of the most stylish turn-outs that Edmonton could produce, formed and drove through the settlement, presenting quite a gay appearance. The rear guard comprised Colin Fraser, Charley Sutter, Donald McLeod's mule, and a stuffed loon which was mounted on the mule's back, all rigged out fantastically—Colin as a dusky brave, Charley as his lady, the mule as—well—probably as the skeleton horse we read about somewhere, and the loon doubtless to signify that the two humans were loon-atics. As the mule gave out, the latter part of the procession was not beautified by their presence. About four o'clock the party returned to Mr. Groat's (the bride's residence,) and partook of an excellent repast, when dancing was commenced, and indulged in until five o'clock next morning. We wish the young couple many happy returns—no, no; better luck n—beg pardon; we wish them long life and happiness.

NOTICE.—The Edmonton Milling Co's Mill will be closed for gristing for the season, from this date, owing to the large quantity of grinding on hand, that must be done.

J. KNOWLES, Manager for E.M.Co.

NOTICE.—All persons indebted to the estate of the late James Marwick will please settle with the undersigned immediately. T. HOURS ON.

CARLYN & LAKE,
BIG LAKE ROAD.

Dealers in Groceries, Provisions, Ready Made Clothing, &c. A large and varied Stock at bottom prices. Call before purchasing elsewhere.

Ten Iron Bound Carts for Sale.

RECEIVED BY MAIL.—The Ordinances of the North-West Territories, complete to date. Price \$1 in paper covers, \$1 25 half bound. For sale by Frank Oliver, Edmonton, and at "The Herald" office Battleford.

JAMES McDONALD, Carpenter and Joiner, Edmonton Milling Co's Mills. Wood Turning done to order.

C. W. SUTTER.—Gentlemen's Outfitter and Clothier—A Large Assortment of Ready Made Clothing, Boots, Shoes and Fancy Goods. Ready Made Clothing fitted without extra charge. Market House, first door East of Mission.

J. KNOWLES, Practical Miller and Millwright Plans and Specifications for any kind of machinery made on application. Orders solicited. Address, Edmonton Mills.

NOTICE.—All parties are hereby warned not to have anything to do with a note now, or lately, in the hands of J. R. Matheson, made by me, in the fall of 1877, in favor of John Shaw, for the sum of \$95.00, payable 90 days after date, as I have already paid the full amount of the note to the said J. R. Matheson.

I also wish to inform Mr. J. R. Matheson, that I think if there is a "sneaking cur" in the country he is one.

GEORGE GAGNON.

Edmonton, Feb. 7, 1881.

BEEF & FLOUR

In unlimited quantities, and at lowest prices at the MARKET HOUSE, formerly known as the School House, second door north of the Methodist Church.

D. M. McDougall.

EDMONTON HOTEL & FEED STABLES.

Established 1876.

The pioneer house of accommodation this side of Portage la Prairie. A good game of

BILLIARDS OR POOL

Can be played, and a very social evening can be spent in the Billiard Room.

DONALD ROSS, Proprietor.

NORRIS & LOGAN,

DEER LODGE,

BIG LAKE ROAD,

Wholesale and retail dealers in Dry Goods, Ready Made Clothing, Hardware, Groceries, Provisions, Feed &c.

The highest price paid for FUR.

All persons indebted to the above Firm are requested to call and settle their accounts without any further delay.

undoubtedly right, but when the Government assists "struggling industries" in the Eastern Provinces by making the settlers of the North West pay heavy bonuses to them, no such charge is made against them. Is not the settlement of the vacant land in the North West of as much—and ten thousand times more—profit to the Dominion than the establishment of a few shoe factories or cotton mills, and is not the settler who applies his capital of money and labor, to the cultivation of land as deserving of encouragement as the soulless money grubber or the poor white slaves who drag out a hopeless, helpless, existence amongst his machinery. Rather than tax one "struggling industry" for the benefit of another, surely it would be better to let the one which could not support itself die.

OUR last week's telegram made no mention of any appropriation being made for the survey of land in the North West. We suppose that no more land will be surveyed until the Syndicate wishes it.

LOCAL.

ABOUT 250 saw logs are lying in the mill company's yard, to be sawed on shares.

BELCHER BROS. have sold out of the Edmonton Milling Co., to Norris and Logan.

ABOUT \$120 had been raised for the Methodist church organ fund at last accounts.

THE ladies of the Methodist church here proposing a social entertainment shortly.

A MEETING of the shareholders of the Edmonton Milling Co. was held on Tuesday last.

WM. CUST shipped a quantity of flour last Tuesday to Victoria, for the Indian Department.

THE "Little Giant" thresher was working very satisfactorily at Qui Barre farm last week.

ED. BROUSSEAU has delivered his contract of 200 bushels of barley, for Indian seed, at the Qui Barre farm.

THE St. Albert settlement is threshed out now and Mr. Lamoreaux has started on the Sturgeon River settlement.

THE Government horses and mules, which have been wintering on the Stoney Plain, were brought in last week, and are rolling fat.

BROWN & CURRIE are getting out timber to put up a building 35x26 one and a half stories high, for use as a store, and to be erected next summer.

OUR last week's telegram stated that the next meeting of the Syndicate would take place in London "three months" hence. It should have been "three weeks."

THE last "Herald" credits us with saying that the Rev. J. McDougall is instructor of the "Blood" Indians, near Fort McLeod. We didn't say so. The gentleman we alluded to is a half-breed, commonly known as "Big John McDougall," who formerly resided at Slave Lake and Edmonton. The Rev. John McDougall holds no Government situation, but is Methodist missionary to the Mountain Stoney, who reside up the Bow River, near the mountains.

ERMINE SKIN says he has given up all idea of a farm at Stoney Plain, and will stay where he is at Peace Hills. The old gentleman is becoming sensible,—thanks to the exertions of the very efficient Farm Instructor at Peace Hills.

MR. J. J. McILLOU, Indian farm instructor, at the Riviere Qui Barre, has been appointed to the farm at the mouth of Fish Creek, near Fort Calgary, Bow River. Mr. W. J. O'Donnell, formerly assistant at Qui Barre, has been appointed instructor in Mr. McIlloig's place.

THE Sturgeon River mills are so hard pressed with work that it has been found necessary to procure another run of stones. As soon as they arrive from Lake St. Anne the mill will shut down for a few days to allow the proprietors to place them and the new turbine in position.

A WEEK ago last Tuesday night, the house occupied by Mose McDougall and Charlie Sutter was entered and about \$25 worth of goods belonging to Charlie and \$5 in cash belonging to Mose, was taken. The goods were not missed for some time, but as there seemed to be a superabundance of blue ribbon and silk handkerchiefs flying around in various quarters, an inventory was taken, which showed that the before mentioned amount was missing. Part of the property was recovered, and the theft was traced to a young rascal called Mat-che-sis, and another who worked for Mose a short time before. On Tuesday the latter called at the house and made a statement of the affair, and on Wednesday morning an information was laid against Mr. Mat-che-sis for house breaking and robbery. It appears that as they were passing the house they noticed that no one was at home, and Mat-che-sis proposed they should go in. They went to the back door, raised it off its hinges, went in, and took what they fancied,—three rolls of ribbon, a silk handkerchief and some other stuff. On Thursday the gentleman was arrested, examined before Messrs. Hardesty and Gagnon, J. P's., and committed for trial on the above charge.

You must go from home to hear the news. The Montreal "Witness" of Jan. 5th, says—"The Indians of the plains in the vicinity of Edmonton have been holding a grand council, and will demand better terms from the Government." If the people of Eastern Canada believe all the startling yarns which appear in the papers on this subject they must imagine this country in a state of continued war with the Indians, as they are south of the line.

If the bill to be brought before Parliament for the extension of the boundaries of Manitoba, carries, prohibition of the liquor traffic will be done away with in that part of the Territory encompassed by the new boundary.

THE rails on the C. P. R. West were laid as far as Image Creek, 16 miles west of the Portage, at last accounts. Hope that they will be laid through the Bad Woods before work is stopped.

HEAVY rain and snow storms are the order of the day in England and Scotland. Some trains in Scotland were buried up in the snow.

THE BULLETIN

Will be published at Edmonton every Monday morning, from the 1st of December until the 1st of May. Subscription for the season \$2.00. Season advertisements, \$5.00 per inch. No advertisement inserted for less than one dollar. Business cards, not over four lines \$2.50. Mr. F. Wilson, at the H.B.C. store, Edmonton, and Mr. P. H. Belcher, at Fort Saskatchewan, will take subscriptions and advertisements.

TAYLOR & OLIVER, Proprietors.

EDMONTON BULLETIN, FEB. 25, 1881.

GOLD.

Gold was first mined on this river about eighteen years ago by a man named Charlie Love, who came from "Across the Mountains." From that time the number of miners increased each year until 1865, when there were fifty men at work. Since then the number has decreased until a few years ago only one man was left on the river. Last summer, however, although it was a very short and unfavorable season on account of high water, five men were working at it, who took out about \$1,000.

When the river was first worked on, it yielded from \$12 to \$20 per day, to each man, but as the rich spots were worked out the average yield became lower, until now \$4 a day is a fair average. In a very favorable season, however, a year or two ago, one man took out \$800.

When the gold washing was commenced at first, rockers were used similar to those in use in the placer diggings of British Columbia, California and Australia, but a gentleman known as Dancing Bill, who came "across" about 1865, introduced the machine used at present, called a grizzly. It is particularly adapted for gravel diggings, where it is necessary to put through a large amount of dirt in a short time, and where there is little or no trouble separating the gold from the dirt. There are two wooden boxes, both open on the top and at one end, called respectively the dump box and sluice box. The sluice box is set lengthwise on or near the ground, with a slight slope, and the dump box so that dirt placed in it will wash into the upper end of the sluice box. A convex grating of iron rods, called the grizzly, is placed over the upper end of the sluice box so as to prevent coarse gravel from going into it, and a piece of blanket is placed in the bottom of the sluice box. The dirt is shoveled into the dump box and water is poured on it, which washes it on to the grizzly, and into and through the sluice box, the gold catching in the blanket as it passes through. At the end of the day's work the gold and sand in the blanket is washed into a tight box or tub, and generally at the

end of the week this is "panned out,"—that is put in a "gold pan" with quicksilver, and as the sand is washed out the gold amalgamates with the quicksilver, forming a pasty mass. This is squeezed in a buckskin bag, and the greater part of the quicksilver is pressed out. What remains is heated so as to drive off all the rest of the quicksilver, and the gold is then ready for market. Here it generally passes at \$16 an ounce, but when properly retorted it is worth a fraction over \$18. The gold is only found in fine dust, never in grains or nuggets.

The gold bearing portion of the river extends from about 60 miles above Edmonton to 80 miles below. It is found in paying quantities only on the gravel bars, although the colour is found in many other places. It is generally very light coloured, but varies a little according to locality, in some parts being coloured with the rust of iron ore. Platina is found in small quantities along with the gold, but no silver.

The pay dirt, or gold bearing gravel, varies from eight inches to four feet in depth, sometimes extending under the bank of the river. In such cases it sometimes pays to tunnel, or drift in, and bring out the dirt to be washed. This gives winter employment, but generally at small wages.

The summer season is short, as the richest places can only be got at in low water, and is generally only a month or two in the spring, before the June rise takes place, and again a month or two in the fall, after the water has lowered.

Gold is also found for a distance of about 130 miles on the McLeod River, about 140 miles west of here, but has never been worked to any great extent. On Peace River, however, the diggings are much richer than on this river, and cover a greater distance. As high as \$100 per day is said to have been made on Peace River at one time, and last summer Jack Lepine made from \$10 to \$12 a day. The diggings on both rivers are similar to those on the Saskatchewan.

Where the gold comes from is a mystery. It certainly does not come from the mountains, as no gold bearing rocks are found on this side of the summit. A fresh supply comes down every freshet, and forms what is called skimmings, but it is washed out of the banks, by the high water. A theory has lately been advanced that a range of gold bearing rocks runs from the northern end of Lake Winnipeg to Lake Athabasca, and that the gold found all through this section of country, was brought from there by the glaciers in an early period of the world's history. But, no matter just now where it comes from, the fact that it is here, and in quantities to give profitable employment to a large number of men, is a great advantage to this part of the North West.

In the proposal to bring out Irish settlers to the North West, and start them farming, it is provided that all advances made to them in the way of improvements, shall be charged against the land, and no deed will be given until this is paid off. This is